

MINUTES
SUTTONS BAY TOWNSHIP BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2022

This meeting is being held face to face at the Suttons Bay-Bingham Fire and Rescue Authority meeting room at 201 N. St. Mary's Avenue in Suttons Bay, Michigan. Due to continuing concerns about Covid transmission there will also be a Zoom link for remote attendance. Any unvaccinated member of the Public in attendance is required to wear a mask. Others should use their own judgment as to mask wearing.

CALL TO ORDER - REGULAR MEETING

Rich Bahle called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. on February 9, 2022, at the Suttons Bay-Bingham Fire and Rescue Authority meeting room, 201 N. St. Mary's Avenue, Suttons Bay, MI.

ROLL CALL - Quorum Present

Present: Rich Bahle, Sandy VanHuystee, Dorothy Petroskey Tom Nixon,
Debbie Slocombe

Absent: None

Staff Present: Steve Patmore

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Rich Bahle/moved, Dorothy Petroskey/supported, to approve the agenda as amended, adding under Old Business, #4 - Supervisor's Retirement, and #5 - Herman Park - purchasing windscreen for the tennis courts, passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dennis Rathnaw - The Parks & Rec Committee has functioned with efficacy and enthusiasm for the past 5 weeks. Our parks are amazing. Keep this organization because we have good people and should take advantage of it.

Jeanne Aldrich - I had the privilege of volunteering on the committee a few years ago. Keep the committee intact for our community and give the over 3,200 citizens the opportunity to volunteer and give input on how the parks should be run. I want a dog park.

Liz Mahaney - Thank you to the township board for its leadership and looking at what the issues are with the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Hadley Dickinson - I someday would like to volunteer, frequent user of Herman Park. Important that the committee stays and let the community have a voice.

Deb Palms - I have had the great privilege to work with and know this dedicated group of committee members. We have strived to achieve to be a voice of the community, being engaged in help develop parks and a rec plan, and to have our collective recommendations considered by the Board.

Pete Ostrowski - Since 2001 the Parks & Rec Committee has fostered a community involved in parks, especially Herman Park. Over the years volunteers have donated time and money toward making the parks what they are today.

Jeff Slocombe - Ask the Board to consider the recommendations made for the by-laws.

Susan Firestone - It is important that the residents have a voice and feel they can make an impact supporting the parks.

Genevieve - What do you benefit from dissolving the volunteer group.

Lauren Connor - I am from the Leelanau Soccer Club. We are looking forward to using the soccer fields in Herman Park in the coming season.

Ray Pezzi - We have lived here long enough to see the progress in the parks, particularly Herman Park. We pledged to donate \$15,000 toward a quality dog park in Herman Park.

Kathy Dinkl - Have been part of getting donations for starting the pickle ball courts. The committee must be kept intact, and we need to continue the diversity of ideas for the parks.

REPORTS:

- Treasurer - Report submitted.
- Planning & Zoning - Continuing to work on zoning ordinance overhaul and getting it ready for County and Board action.
- Fire Authority - Reviewed next year's budget, will hold public hearing at the March meeting.
- Parks & Recreation - The topography surveys were completed by Elmer's at Herman Park for the parking lot extension. Preliminary drawings will probably be completed by early March. Bid documents may be in by early May with plans for construction and follow-up in 2022.
- Facilities - Waiting for purchase of portable folding door for the office. Two carpet companies have a quote for carpeting. Work station areas will have laminate flooring. Two walls will not be put up. Will have large meeting space. Saving money on electrical costs by not putting in more lighting and electrical outlets.

OLD BUSINESS**1. Approval of the Minutes - Previous Meetings**

Tom Nixon/moved, Dorothy Petroskey/supported, to approve the January 12, 2022 Minutes as presented, passed.

2. Payment of bills

Rich Bahle/moved, Sandy VanHuystee/supported to approve the bills in the amount of \$24,910.93, passed.

3. Discussion Re: Recreation Committee Future Direction

Rich Bahle said that doing away with the Rec Committee to form essentially a different Rec Committee seems unnecessary. We have some issues. It was an idea of mine that we should have more parks. Debbie Slocombe joined me and was instrumental in getting us to where we are. Many people and the Board have been very supportive of a township with limited funds creating something quite wonderful. It should be fun and a pleasure and has turned into something other than that. Rather than looking at a new set of rules I would like to advise.

Rich Bahle/moved, Debbie Slocombe/supported, that a committee of four individuals, Tom Nixon, Debbie Slocombe, Pete Ostrowski and Dennis Rathnaw, to review the existing language and draft similar language to meet the needs of the Township Board, allow public input and public interaction, bringing the proposed language to the Board.

After a lengthy discussion, Rich Bahle withdrew his motion and Debbie Slocombe withdrew her second.

Rich Bahle/moved, Debbie Slocombe/supported, to appoint a Board member committee to look at the existing bylaws and proposed revisions, address the Board's concerns with regard to how the Board and the Rec Committee interact.

After a lengthy discussion, Rich Bahle/amended his motion, and Debbie Slocombe/amended her support, to appoint a committee of two (2) members from the Rec Committee (Liz Mulcany and Pete Ostrowski), two (2) township board members (Sandy VanHuystee and Dorothy Petroskey), and a member of the public, (Ms. Hadley) to look at the existing bylaws and proposed revisions address the Board's

concerns with regard to how the Board and Rec Committee interact, passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Compensation increase - Jesse Fox for Ice Rink Duties

Rich Bahle pointed out that Jesse Fox has been doing a great job and should be compensated for his work. Sandy VanHuystee said for the two years Jesse Fox has been paid \$1,000 at the end of the season.

Rich Bahle/moved, Sandy VanHuystee/supported, to increase Jesse Fox's level of compensation to \$2,000.00 a year, motion passed.

At Bill Perkins suggestion, Rich Bahle will find out what the cost is to purchase a Grand Traverse Band flag for placement at the ice rink.

2. Annual Salary Reviews/Resolutions: All Elected Officials Salary Resolution for the Supervisor

Rich Bahle will discuss this under New Business, #4.

Salary Resolution #2 for the Clerk

Rich Bahle/moved, Sandy VanHuystee/supported, to adopt Resolution #2, 2022, setting the Clerk's Salary as of April 1, 2022 at \$28,387.00, plus pension. Roll call vote: Yes: Nixon Petroskey, VanHuystee, Slocombe, Bahle. No: None. Motion passed, Resoslution adopted.

Rich Bahle said for the audience the Township Board decided not to have an annual meeting and sets its own salaries which is the process that has to happen.

Salary Resolution #3 for the Treasurer

Rich Bahle/moved, Debbie Slocombe/supported, to adopt Resolution #3 of 2022, setting the Treasurer's salary at \$29,140.00 for winter and summer tax collections, plus pension. Roll call vote: Yes: Bahle, VanHuystee, Nixon, Slocombe, Petroskey. No: None. Motion passed. Resolution adopted.

Salary Resolution #4 for Trustee No. 1

Rich Bahle/moved, Sandy VanHuystee/supported, to set the salary of Trustee No. 1 at \$1,552.00, plus pension. Roll call vote: Yes: Bahle, VanHuystee, Petroskey, Nixon, Slocobe. No: None. Motion passed. Resolution adopted.

Salary Resolution #5 for Trustee No. 2

Rich Bahle/moved, Sandy VanHuystee/supported, to set the salary of Trustee No. 2 at \$1,552.00, plus pension. Roll call vote: Yes: Bahle, VanHuystee, Petroskey, Nixon, Slocombe. No: None. Motion passed. Resolution adopted.

Graham-Greene Park Proposal from Gosling-Czubak

A proposal was submitted from Gosling-Czubak for \$6,500.00 to prepare a topographic survey and conceptual plan for Graham-Greene Park. The proposal is to make Graham-Greene Park more ADA friendly. Gosling-Czubak did a walk thru of improving the stairway down to the beach, putting in ADA compliant racks down there, a bench and improving ADA parking. improving ADA parking, similar to Steimel Park.

Dorothy Petroskey/moved, Tom Nixon/supported, that the Board move forward on the Graham-Greene Park Proposal from Gosling-Czubak for \$6,500.00 (topographic survey and conceptual plan.

Discussion: Rich Bahle said we should strive to get the Rec Committee involved. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS1. Salary Resolution #1 of 2022 for Supervisor

Rich Bahle/moved, Sandy VanHuystee/supported, to adopt Salary Resolution #1 of 2022 to set the Supervisor's salary at \$18,035.00, plus pension. Roll call vote: Yes: Bahle, VanHuystee, Petroskey, Nixon, Slocombe. No: None. Motion passed and Resolution #1 adopted.

2. Supervisor's Resignation

Rich Bahle submitted his resignation as Supervisor of the Suttons Bay Township Board, effective March 31, 2022. Information was submitted from MTA regarding resignations. The appointment of Supervisor has to be made 45 days after Rich Bahle's resignation becomes effective. The person appointed as Supervisor would have to run in the August primary and November general election. Rich Bahle said it has been with a great deal of pleasure to serve. Enjoyed the experience.

No action was taken on the Supervisor's Resignation.

Other Business

Special Meeting - February 24, 2022, 9 am to review the budget and pay any bills due in the fiscal year.

Special Meeting - March 24, 2022, 9 am for budget amendments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Drozdalski - talked about Herman Park.

Gary Hoensheid- Thanked Rich Bahle for his years of service. He requests an apology from the Clerk regarding her comment.

Dennis Rathnaw - Said how much he appreciated Rich Bahle's leadership.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Tom Nixon - Not sure he will vote for Rich Bahle's retirement.

Debbie Slocombe - Rich, you have done a wonderful job, enjoyed working with you on the Parks and Rec Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Rich Bahle adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Minutes by Marge Johnson, Recording Secretary
Sandy VanHuystee, Township Clerk

Minutes Approved as-presented on April 13, 2022